#### DUANE MORRIS LLP

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

INDEMNITY INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

ν.

SINGAPORE AIRLINES LTD; EXEL GLOBAL LOGISTICS, INC.,

Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 08 CIV 3309 (DLC)

ANSWER, AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES AND CROSS-CLAIMS OF EXEL GLOBAL LOGISTICS, INC.

Defendant, EXEL GLOBAL LOGISTICS, INC. ("Exel"), by and through its attorneys, Duane Morris LLP, answers the Complaint of Indemnity Insurance Company of North America ("Indemnity") on information and belief and asserts Affirmative Defenses and Cross-Claims as follows:

- 1. Exel denies knowledge or information sufficient to either admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 1 of the Complaint.
- 2. Exel denies that it is a corporation incorporated under the laws of New York and states that it is a corporation incorporated under the laws of one of the states of the United States. Exel denies knowledge or information sufficient to either admit or deny the balance of the allegations contained in Paragraph 2 of the Complaint.

3. The allegations contained in paragraph 3 of the Complaint are conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent a response is deemed required, Exel denies knowledge or information sufficient to admit or deny the allegations set forth in paragraph 3 of the Complaint.

### FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

- 4. Exel repeats and realleges its answers to the allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 3 of the Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 5. The allegations contained in paragraph 5 of the Complaint are conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent a response is deemed required, Exel denies knowledge or information sufficient to admit or deny the allegations set forth in paragraph 5 of the Complaint.
- 6. The allegations contained in paragraph 6 of the Complaint are conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent a response is deemed required, Exel denies knowledge or information sufficient to admit or deny the allegations set forth in paragraph 6 of the Complaint.
- 7. To the extent the allegations contained in paragraph 7 contain conclusions of law, no response is required from Exel. To the extent a response is deemed required, Exel denies knowledge or information sufficient to admit or deny the allegations set forth in paragraph 7 of the Complaint.
  - 8. Exel denies the allegations made in Paragraph 8 of the Complaint.
- 9. Exel denies knowledge or information sufficient to admit or deny the allegations set forth in paragraph 9 of the Complaint.

10. Exel denies knowledge or information sufficient to either admit or deny the allegations contained in paragraph 10 of the Complaint.

# SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

- 11. Exel repeats and realleges its answers to the allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 10 of the Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
  - 12. Exel denies the allegations made in Paragraph 12 of the Complaint.
  - 13. Exel denies the allegations made in Paragraph 13 of the Complaint.

**WHEREFORE**, Exel demands judgment against Plaintiff dismissing the Complaint with prejudice and with costs and attorneys' fees and, for such other relief as the Court deems proper.

#### AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

#### FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Forum Non-Conveniens.

#### SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff has failed to state a cause of action for which relief can be granted.

#### THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Lack of personal jurisdiction.

#### FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Venue for this action is improper.

#### FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred by the applicable statute of limitations, laches or other applicable time limit.

# SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Improper service of process.

# SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred by the doctrine of estoppel.

#### EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred by the doctrines of waiver.

#### NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The alleged damages complained of were caused by the direct and proximate negligence of other parties, their agents or employees or by others unknown at this time over whom Exel had no control at any time relevant hereto, and in the event Exel is found liable to plaintiff, which liability is expressly denied, Exel will be entitled to indemnification, contribution or apportionment of liability pursuant to applicable law.

# TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Exel has performed all of the terms and conditions of the contract between the parties, if any, which were to be performed by Exel in accordance with such terms and conditions of contract.

#### ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' claims are barred by plaintiff's failure to timely file a notice of claim with Exel.

# TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Exel was not negligent and has taken all necessary measures to avoid any loss, damage or delay under the contract of carriage.

#### THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The alleged loss, damage or delay was caused by or contributed to by the plaintiff, its agents, servants and/or employees.

#### FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Pursuant to the provisions of Exel's contract of carriage, tariffs, the Warsaw Convention and/or other governing law, Exel has no liability to plaintiff or to any other person under the contracts of carriage for any loss, damage or delay where such loss, damage or delay.

#### FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Exel performed each and every obligation and duty required of it under the contract of carriage and delivered the shipment to the proper party in the same order and condition as received.

#### SIXTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The transportation the subject matter of this action arose was "international transportation" within the meaning of a treaty of the United States known as the Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules Relating to International Transportation by Air, concluded at Warsaw, Poland, October 12, 1929 ("Warsaw Convention"), and the rights of the parties are governed exclusively by the provisions of the Warsaw Convention. 49 Stat. 3000, T.S. NO. 876, 137 L.N.T.S. 11 (1934), reprinted in 49 U.S.C.A. § 40105 (1997).

## SEVENTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Pursuant to the applicable provisions of Exel's contract of carriage, tariffs on file, the Warsaw Convention, and/or other governing law, Exel has no liability to plaintiff or to any other person under the contract of carriage in that the alleged loss, damage or delay was caused by or

contributed to by improper or defective packaging or packing and/or the inherent nature of the merchandise and/or the act of a public authority.

#### EIGHTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Pursuant to Article 20(1) of the Warsaw Convention, Exel is not liable to plaintiff because Exel, through its officers, agents and employees, took all necessary measures to avoid the loss or damage described in the Complaint, or because it was impossible for Exel through its officers, agents and employees, to take such measures.

#### NINETEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Any liability of Exel is limited to an aggregate sum not in excess of U.S. \$9.07 per pound or U.S. \$20 per kilogram of cargo lost or damaged for which Exel Global is answerable by contract or by law.

# **NINETEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

In the event that Exel is found liable to Plaintiff, which liability is expressly denied, Exel will be entitled to indemnification, contribution or apportionment of liability pursuant to applicable law.

#### TWENTIETH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The Complaint fails to join an indispensable party or parties needed for a just adjudication.

#### TWENTY-FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Exel has no liability to Plaintiff or to any other person under the contract of carriage for any consequential and/or special damages arising out of or in any way connected with the loss, damage or delay under the contract of carriage.

#### TWENTY-SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The alleged damages were caused and brought about by an intervening and superseding cause and were not caused by Exel or by a person for whom Exel is responsible.

# TWENTY-THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Exel is entitled to all applicable limitations of liability included in its tariffs, invoices, contracts, under law, or otherwise, limiting Plaintiffs' recovery.

#### TWENTY-FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff failed to mitigate its damages.

#### TWENTY-FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Exel reserves the right to amend this pleading to reflect additional affirmative defenses as may be revealed through discovery and further pleadings.

WHEREFORE, Exel demands judgment against Plaintiff dismissing the Complaint with prejudice and with costs and attorneys' fees and, for such other relief as the Court deems proper.

## CROSS- CLAIM FOR CONTRIBUTION AGAINST SINGAPORE AIRLINES, LTD.

Exel repeats and realleges each and every paragraph contained herein, including the denial, denial of knowledge or information, and affirmative defense contained in this Answer and Affirmative Defenses and Cross-Claim as if fully set forth herein.

If the cargo which is the subject of plaintiff's Complaint suffered any loss or damage as alleged in the Complaint, which is denied, it resulted solely from the fault, neglect and/or lack of care, breach of contract and/or breach of warranty (express or implied), gross negligence, willful misconduct, omission or other wrongful act on the part of co-defendant SINGAPORE AIRLINES, LTD. or its agents or sub-contractors, and as a result of the foregoing, if any liability should happen to be imposed upon Exel, Exel should be granted contribution from SINGAPORE

AIRLINES LTD. or its agents or sub-contractors, together with attorneys' fees, costs and disbursements of the action.

#### CROSS- CLAIM FOR INDEMNITY AGAINST SINGAPORE AIRLINES, LTD.

Exel repeats and realleges each and every paragraph contained herein, including the denial, denial of knowledge or information, and affirmative defense contained in this Answer and Affirmative Defenses and Cross-Claim as if fully set forth herein.

If the cargo which is the subject of plaintiff's Complaint suffered any loss or damage as alleged in the Complaint, which is denied, it resulted solely from the fault, neglect and/or lack of care, breach of contract and/or breach of warranty (express or implied), gross negligence, willful misconduct, omission or other wrongful act on the part of co-defendant SINGAPORE AIRLINES, LTD. or its agents or sub-contractors, and as a result of the foregoing, if any liability should happen to be imposed upon Exel, Exel should be granted full indemnity from SINGAPORE AIRLINES LTD. or its agents or sub-contractors, together with attorneys' fees, costs and disbursements of the action.

# CROSS-CLAIM FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT AGAINST SINGAPORE AIRLINES, LTD.

Exel repeats and realleges each and every paragraph contained herein, including the denial, denial of knowledge or information, and affirmative defense contained in this Answer and Affirmative Defenses and Cross-Claim as if fully set forth herein.

While denying any liability for damages to the Plaintiff, Exel cross-claims against codefendant SINGAPORE AIRLINES, LTD for breach of contract for any and all sums which Exel may be required to pay in this action, including attorneys' fees and expenses. WHEREFORE, Defendant, EXEL GLOBAL LOGISTICS, seeks judgment dismissing the Complaint with prejudice and without costs, or, in the alternative, seeks judgment against codefendant SINGAPORE AIRLINES, LTD on its crossclaims, together with costs of suit, interest and reasonable attorney's fees, and for such other relief as the Court deems just.

Dated: May 19, 2008

DUANE MORRIS LLP A Delaware Limited Liability Partnership

By: /s/ Alissa M. Ryder

James W. Carbin (JC 5004) Alissa M. Ryder (AR 7405) 744 Broad Street, Suite 1200 Newark, New Jersey 07102

(973) 424-2000

Attorneys for Defendant,

EXEL GLOBAL LOGISTICS, INC.

## **DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY MAIL**

ALISSA M. RYDER, declares that:

I am not a party to this action, am over 18 years of age, and reside in New York, New York. On May 19, 2008 I served a true and correct copy of ANSWER, AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES AND CROSS-CLAIMS OF EXEL GLOBAL LOGISTICS and RULE 7.1 STATEMENT on:

David L. Mazaroli, Esq. Law Offices of David Mazaroli 11 Park Place – Suite 1214 New York, NY 10007

Bartholomew J. Banino Stephen J. Fearon Condon & Forsyth LLP 7 Times Square New York, NY 10036

by depositing the same in a sealed and postage prepaid wrapper, in a post-office or official depository of the U.S. Postal Service within the State of New York, addressed to the last known address of the addresses(es) as indicated above.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: May 19, 2008

Alissá M. Ryder